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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Wild *et al.*

Appl. No. 09/809,060

Filed: March 16, 2001

For: **A Method for Generating  
Immunogens that Elicit  
Neutralizing Antibodies Against  
Fusion-Active Regions of HIV  
Envelope Proteins**

Confirmation No.: 4671

Art Unit: 1646

Examiner: *To be assigned*

Atty. Docket: 1900.0260001/JMC/MJC

*Pre Amelt*  
*3A*  
*mw*

**Preliminary Amendment**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that the following amendment be entered in advance of substantive examination. This Amendment is provided in the following format:

- (A) A clean version of each replacement paragraph along with clear instructions for entry;
- (B) Starting on a separate page, appropriate remarks; and
- (C) Starting on a separate page, a marked-up version entitled: "Version with markings to show changes made."

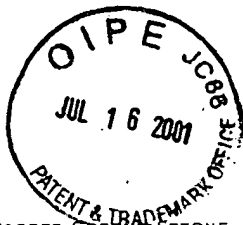
***Amendment***

***In the Specification:***

Insert the following paragraph on page 1, after line 5:

This application claims the benefit of the filing date of U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/189,981 filed on March 17, 2000, which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

*Q1*



**STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.**

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\*LIMITED TO MATTERS  
AND PROCEEDINGS BEFORE  
FEDERAL COURTS & AGENCIES  
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July 16, 2001

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Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application  
Appl. No. 09/809,060; Filed: March 16, 2001  
For: **A Method for Generating Immunogens that Elicit Neutralizing  
Antibodies Against Fusion-Active Regions of HIV Envelope Proteins**  
Inventors: Wild *et al.*  
Our Ref: 1900.0260001/JMC/MJC

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Preliminary Amendment; and
2. One (1) return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

Commissioner for Patents

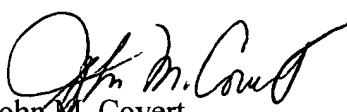
July 16, 2001

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The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036. A duplicate copy of this letter is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

  
John M. Covert  
Attorney for Applicants  
Registration No. 38,759

JMC/MJC/lam

Enclosures

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